

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Appln. No. 10/700,465
Docket No. Q78326

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A female terminal comprising:
 - a support portion;
 - a pair of resilient ~~strip~~piece portions supported by the support portion at one end of each resilient strip portion so that surfaces of the resilient ~~strip~~piece portions oppose to each other such that parts of the resilient ~~strip~~piece portions on distal end sides thereof are close to each other for clamping a mating terminal ~~each other~~;
 - a protective portion provided on a side from which the mating terminal is inserted between the resilient piece portions so as to cover distal end portions of the resilient piece portions, and having an opening for inserting the mating terminal; and
 - a strip-like interconnecting portion interconnecting the protective portion and the support portion, and provided with a wide portion, which has a width larger than another part of the interconnecting portion, at an end thereof adjacent to a side of the protective portion;
 - wherein the support portion, the resilient ~~strip~~piece portions, the protective portion and the interconnecting portion are integrally formed by bending a metal plate;
 - wherein the interconnecting portion is disposed between the pair of resilient piece portions and
 - a notch is formed at least between one side edge of the ~~interconnection~~interconnecting portion and one side edge of the resilient piece portions opposing to the ~~inter~~

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~~connection~~interconnecting portion so that the side edge of the resilient piece portion has a shape substantially coincide with the side edge of the interconnecting portion in a developed condition of the female terminal;

wherein in a developed condition the support portion includes a first portion provided adjacent to said strip-like interconnecting portion, a side wall portion connected to said first portion, and a second portion provided substantially parallel to the first portion so as to oppose said first portion, said second portion being connected to said side wall portion.

2. (currently amended): A connector in which an electric part is mounted, the connector comprising:

a female terminal; and

a housing having a cavity for receiving the female terminal;

the female terminal including:

a support portion;

a pair of resilient ~~strip~~piece portions supported by the support portion at one end of each resilient strip portion so that surfaces of the resilient ~~strip~~piece portions oppose to each other such that parts of the resilient ~~strip~~piece portions on distal end sides thereof are close to each other for clamping a mating terminal ~~each other~~;

a protective portion provided on a side from which the mating terminal is inserted between the resilient piece portions so as to cover distal end portions of the resilient piece portions, and having an opening for inserting the mating terminal; and

a strip-like interconnecting portion interconnecting the protective portion and the support portion, and provided with a wide portion, which has a width larger than another part of the interconnecting portion, said wide portion being provided at an end thereof of the interconnecting portion that is adjacent to a side of the protective portion;

wherein an abutment portion projects from a wall face of the housing, and the wide ~~part~~portion of the interconnecting portion abuts against the abutment portion when the female terminal is inserted into the cavity in an improper manner.

3. (original): A connector, according to Claim 2, wherein the abutment portion is disposed on a rear position in an inserting direction of the female terminal into the cavity with respect to a position where a front end of the female terminal is accommodated when the female terminal is properly inserted in the cavity.

4. (original): A connector, according to Claim 2, wherein the connector is provided in a fuse box and receives a fuse as the electrical part.

5. (new): A connector, according to Claim 2, wherein the support portion, the resilient piece portions, the protective portion and the interconnecting portion are integrally formed by bending a metal plate.

6. (new): A connector, according to Claim 5, wherein the interconnecting portion is disposed between the pair of resilient piece portions, and

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a notch is formed at least between one side edge of the interconnecting portion and one side edge of the resilient piece portions opposing to the interconnecting portion so that the side edge of the resilient piece portion has a shape substantially coincide with the side edge of the interconnecting portion in a developed condition of the female terminal.

7. (new): A connector, according to Claim 6, wherein in a developed condition the support portion includes a first portion provided adjacent to said strip-like interconnecting portion, a side wall portion connected to said first portion, and a second portion provided substantially parallel to the first portion so as to oppose said first portion, said second portion being connected to said side wall portion.